U.S.A., U.K., Japan, U.S.S.R., Italy and West Germany?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The Balance of Payment Statistics are compiled by the Reserve Bank of India. There is normally a time lag of 12 months before the full figures of Balance of Payments become available. The latest full year Balance of Payment Statistics published by the Reserve Bank of India pertain to the year 1986-87.

(b) The figures of country-wise exports and imports upto June, 1988 which are presently available are as follows:—

(Rs. in crores)

Name of country	Exports (April-June, 1988)	Imports (April-June, 1988)
U.S.A.	762·63	591·08
U.K.	263·12	596·53
Japan	453·75	611·32
U.S.S.R.	569·11	342·09
Italy	126·22	116·26
West Germany	279·24	555.76

Statutory Development Boards in Maharashtra

2539. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government had received any proposal from Maharashtra Government for setting up Statutory Development Boards for the Vidarbha, Marathwada and Konkan regions of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the present position in regard to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) In August 1984, on the basis of a Resolution passed by both Houses of the State Legislature, a communication was received from the Government of Maharashtra recommending establishment of separate Development Boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and the rest of Maharashtra through Presidential Order under the provisions of article 371(2) of the Constitution. The draft scheme received subsequently from the State Government for establishment of these Development Boards was not found to conform to the requirements of the Constitutional provisions and, therefore, the matter was taken up with the State Government. The State Government have been reconsidering the issue and no fresh proposal has been received from them so far.

आयातित माल के लिए आनुषंगिक लाइसेंस

2540. श्री ईश दत्त यादव : **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मुख्य आयात-निर्यात नियंत्रक कार्यालय से एक सार्वजनिक सूचना जारी की गयी है जिसमें इस आशय की घोषणा की गयी है कि आयातित माल को छुड़ाने के लिए "सबसिडियरी लाइसेंस" दिया जायेगा;

(ख) यदि हां, तो आयातित सामानों के सुगमतापूर्वक निपटान के उद्देश्य से शुरू किये गये वास्तविक उपभोक्ता लाइसेंस के स्थान पर सह-लाइसेंस/सबसिडियरी लाइसेंस प्रदान किए जाने हेतु आवेदन पत्र का प्रारूप व आवश्यक शर्तें क्या-क्या हैं; और

(ग) यह अधिसूचना कब तक जारी की जायेगी और माहवार औसतन कितने लोगों को उक्त लाइसेंस की सुविधा देने का प्रावधान निर्धारित किया गया है तथा इस आर्थिक आधार क्या होंगे ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री यो० आर० दास मुंशी) : (क) से (ग) एक ही सामा शुल्क कार्यालय के विभिन्न अनुभागों से माल निकासी सुगम बनाने के लिए वास्तविक प्रयोक्ता लाइसेंसों के साथ सबसिडियरी लाइसेंस देने का निश्चय किया गया है। सबसिडियरी लाइसेंस देने की शर्तें दिनांक 3 नवम्बर, 1988 के आयात व्यापार नियंत्रण सार्वजनिक सूचना सं० 70-आईटीसी (पीएन)/88-91 में दी गई है जिसकी प्रतियां संसद के पुस्तकालय में उपलब्ध है। उन सभी पात्र व्यक्तियों को सबसिडियरी लाइसेंस दिया जाएगा जो उपर्युक्त सूचना में दी गई सभी शर्तें पूरी करते है।

Reduction in Customs Duty on Drugs

2541. SHRI JAGESH DESAI:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the drugs/drug intermediates for which customs duty was reduced in the current year's Budget;

(b) what was the earlier duty and what is the present duty;

(c) whether his Ministry has studied the loss to Exchequer;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that the objective to reduce the duty was to provide the benefit to public;

(f) whether it is also a fact that consequent to duty reduction, prices of resultant bulk drugs and formulations have not been reduced by producers;

(g) if so, what immediate steps have been taken to provide the benefit to poor consumers; and

(h) what are the details and outcome of such steps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (d) In the current year's budget, the rate of import duty (basic and auxiliary) on 235 drug intermediates was reduced from 115 per cent to 90 per cent ad valorem. These drug-intermediates have been listed in Notification No. 14/88-Customs, dated the 1st March, 1988 which has been laid on the Table of the House. The estimated net revenue loss on account of this reduction in import duty is Rs. 1000 lakhs in one full year.

(e) to (h) The objective of the import duty reduction was to make available essential drugs at lower prices. The impact of customs duty reduction on drug intermediates is taken into account while fixing the prices of concerned bulk drugs and consequently get reflected in the prices of their formulations. The drug manufacturers and their Association have already been directed to pass on the benefits to the extent of duty concession to the consumer.

Rationalisation of Duties

2542. DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:
SHRI JAGESH DESAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to associate cost experts with exercises concerning the rationalisation of duties and revenue intelligence through Department of Revenue Intelligence;

(b) what steps have been taken to utilise the services of cost experts for *ex-post* facto examination of the benefits to the consumers of the duty concessions announced by his Ministry from time to time;

(c) whether it is a fact that this task is not being done by any agency at present; and